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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/770,214	01/29/2001	Sugitaka Oteki	202321US2	6852

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OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
1940 DUKE STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER

WORKU, NEGUSSIE

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2626

DATE MAILED: 10/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/770,214

Applicant(s)

OTEKI ET AL.

Examiner

Negussie Worku

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 June 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10, 13-24, 27 and 28 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 11, 12, 25 and 26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date 01/29/01, 2/10/04, 2/19/04, 2/10/04
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's arguments, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-28 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in regard to claim 11,12, 25 and 26. Claims 1-10, 13-24 and 27-28 are currently allowed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 11,12, 25 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yoshida et al. (USP 5,815,289).

Regarding to claim 11, Yoshida discloses an image processing apparatus (fig 1A) comprising: a reading unit (110 of fig 15A) which simultaneously reads image data from two, an obverse and a reverse, surfaces of a document, (col.16, lines 25-30); an obverse image processing unit (front image reader 110 of fig 15A), which subjects the image data corresponding to the obverse surface to a specific image processing,(col.16, lines 25-30); a reverse image processing unit (112 of fig 15A) which subjects the image

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data corresponding to the reverse surface to a specific image processing (fig 1A); an appending unit (controller 142 of fig 142 of fig 15A) which appends identifying information for identifying whether the image data read by the reading unit (110 of fig 15A) is the image data corresponding to the obverse surface or the image data corresponding to the reverse surface (col.16, lines 25-30 and lines 40-45); and a communication line which connects said obverse image processing unit (110 of fig 15A) and said reverse image processing unit, (back reading unit 112 of fig 15A) the communication line being used in transmitting or receiving the image data (col.27, lines 21-26, lines 56-63).

With regard to claim 12, Yoshida discloses the image processing apparatus (fig 1A) wherein said reading unit includes, an obverse reading unit (front reading unit 15a) which reads image data from the obverse surface of the document (col.16, lines 25-30); and a reverse reading unit (back image reading unit 112 of fig 15a) which reads image data from the reverse surface of the document, (col.16, lines 40-45).

Regarding to claim 25, Yoshida discloses an image processing apparatus (fig 1A) comprising: a reading means (110 of fig 15A) which simultaneously reads image data from two, an obverse and a reverse, surfaces of a document, (col.16, lines 25-30); an obverse image processing means (front image reader 110 of fig 15A), which subjects the image data corresponding to the obverse surface to a specific image processing, (col.16, lines 25-30); a reverse image processing means (112 of fig 15A) which subjects the image data corresponding to the reverse surface to a specific image processing (fig

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1A); an appending means (controller 142 of fig 142 of fig 15A) which appends identifying information to the image data, the identifying whether the image data read by the reading unit (110 of fig 15A) is the image data corresponding to the obverse surface or the image data corresponding to the reverse surface (col.16, lines 25-30 and lines 40-45); and a communication line which connects said obverse image processing means (110 of fig 15A) and said reverse image processing means, (back reading unit 112 of fig 15A) the communication line being used in transmitting or receiving the image data with the appended identifying information (col.27, lines 21-26, lines 56-63).

With regard to claim 26, Yoshida discloses the image processing apparatus (fig 1A) wherein said reading unit includes, an obverse reading unit (front reading unit 15a) which reads image data from the obverse surface of the document (col.16, lines 25-30); and a reverse reading unit (back image reading unit 112 of fig 15a) which reads image data from the reverse surface of the document, (col.16, lines 40-45).

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-10, 13-24 and 27-28 allowed. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: According to office action dated December 3, 2004, claims 5-10 and 19-24 were allowed. Applicant has amended Claims 1-4, claims 13-18 and 27-28 as indicated in the applicant's response. Therefor, claims 1-10 and 13-24 are allowed.

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5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Negussie Worku whose telephone number is 571-272-7472. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am-6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly Williams can be reached on 571-272-7471. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Negussie Worku

10/07/05



KIMBERLY WILLIAMS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER